

Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

DHA-02 EUR-12 NEA-10 SAM-01 /088 W

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R 071505Z NOV 75

FM AMEMBASSY MASERU

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5307

INFO AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L MASERU 1171

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: UNGA, SHUM, PFOR, LT

SUBJECT: ANTI-ZIONISM RESOLUTION: LESOTHO

REF: A. MASERU 1165; B. STATE 259569

1. BRITISH HIGH COMMISSIONER, WHO ONLY EC-9 MEMBER REPRESENTED HERE, AS OF TODAY DOES NOT HAVE INSTRUCTIONS TO APPROACH GOL ON ANTI-ZIONISM RESOLUTION. HE HAS ONLY GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS SETTING OUT REASONS FOR EC-9 OPPOSITION TO RESOLUTION WHICH HE PLANS TO USE ON AN "IF-ASKED" BASIS.

2. DURING CALL ON ACTING PERMSEC FOREIGN AFFAIRS MALEBO TODAY ON DIFFERENT SUBJECT, CHARGE RAISED ANTI-ZIONISM RESOLUTION, EXPLAINED WHY U.S. WAS MAKING SERIOUS EFFORT TO PREVENT ITS PASSAGE, DISCUSSED IMPLICATIONS OF PASSAGE OF RESOLUTION FOR DECADE FOR ACTION AND OTHER GENUINE MEASURES TO COMBAT REAL RACISM, NOTED LESOTHO'S ABSTENTION IN COMMITTEE, AND EXPRESSED HOPE LESOTHO WOULD CONTINUE TO DO WHATEVER IT COULD TO PREVENT PASSAGE.

3. MALEBO SAID GOL'S MAIN PROBLEM WITH RESOLUTION WAS
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THAT IT WOULD DRIVE AWAY SUPPORT FROM OTHER RESOLUTIONS AND

MEASURES TO COMBAT RACISM, BUT THAT LESOTHO HAD ALSO REFRAINED FROM SUPPORTING RESOLUTION ON BASIS OF PRINCIPLE AS WELL AS ITS CONTINUED FRIENDLY RELATIONS WITH ISRAEL. SAID HE BELIEVED BEST LESOTHO COULD DO IN CIRCUMSTANCES WOULD BE TO ABSTAIN IN PLENARY.

4. MALEBO SAID U.S. SHOULD REALIZE THAT, ALTHOUGH GOL UNDERSTOOD AND IN MANY WAYS SHARED U.S. POSITION ON THIS PARTICULAR RESOLUTION, THERE WAS WIDESPREAD FEELING AMONG AFRICAN COUNTRIES THAT U.S. AND OTHER LARGE WESTERN COUNTRIES WERE NOT DOING ENOUGH TO COMBAT RACISM IN SOUTH AFRICA. HE SAID THIS WAS OF SPECIAL CONCERN TO LESOTHO WHICH IS MOST DIRECTLY EXPOSED OF ALL INDEPENDENT COUNTRIES TO EVILS OF APARTHEID. HE REVIEWED LESOTHO'S POLICY OF TOTAL OPPOSITION TO HOMELANDS AND EXPRESSED HOPE U.S. WOULD NOT RECOGNIZE ANY SO-CALLED INDEPENDENT HOMELANDS.
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